

How handwriting develops by age

Child's age	Handwriting level
1 year	Can scribble on paper
2 years	Can make horizontal, circular and vertical marks on paper
3 years	Can copy horizontal, circular and vertical lines
4-5 years (Reception)	Can use a pencil and hold it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed

5-6 years (Year 1)

**Can form lower case
and capital letters
Can form digits 0 to 9**

6-7 years (Year 2)

**Can use the strokes
needed to join letters
Can write capital
letters, lower case
letters and digits that
are all the correct size
in relation to each other**

**7-9 years (Years
3 and 4)**

**Can use the strokes
needed to join letters
Increasing the legibility,
consistency and quality
of their handwriting**

**9 to 11 years
(Years 5 and 6)**

**Can write legibly,
fluently and with
increasing speed**